



NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**FEDERAL COURT SENTENCES FAIRBANKS METHAMPHETAMINE DEALER TO
20 YEARS IN PRISON**

Fairbanks, AK – United States Attorney Nelson P. Cohen announced today, May 2, 2007, that Robert Barondeau Sanderson, a resident of Fairbanks, has been sentenced in federal court in Fairbanks to 20 years imprisonment on his conviction for possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute, distribution of methamphetamine, and being a felon in possession of firearms. Sanderson's conviction resulted from a four-day jury trial.

United States District Court Judge Ralph R. Beistline imposed the sentence on Sanderson, 42, of 872 Bouton Court.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Bryan Schroder, who prosecuted the case, the evidence presented at trial established that Sanderson possessed over one pound of methamphetamine when law enforcement officers searched his home, pursuant to a search warrant, on August 15, 2006. The evidence at trial included testimony describing two surveiled undercover purchases of methamphetamine at Sanderson's home. Also, during the search, the officers found numerous firearms. Sanderson is prohibited from owning firearms due to a previous felony conviction, which was also related to methamphetamine.

Prior to imposing sentence, Judge Beistline recognized that methamphetamine is a curse in our communities, destroying lives of the users and sometimes their families.

Mr. Cohen commended the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and the Alaska Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Enforcement (ABADE) for their cooperative effort in this case. The Fairbanks branch of ABADe includes officers from the Alaska State Troopers, the Fairbanks Police Department, and the University of Alaska Fairbanks Police Department.

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